

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-13 NIC-01 ACDA-19 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

DRC-01 SAJ-01 /114 W

----- 063189

O 111750Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2385

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BERLIN 1575

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, RU

SUBJECT: HESS' MEDICAL TESTS TEMPORARILY POSTPONED

REF: BERLIN 1562

1. SUMMARY: SOVIETS HAVE NOT REBUTTED POSITION THAT ALLIES HAVE RIGHT UNDER EXISTING QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT TO CARRY OUT SECOND SET OF TESTS, BUT ALLIES CHOSE NOT TO DO SO SEPTEMBER 10 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SOVIETS ADDITIONAL TIME TO CLARIFY THEIR POSITION. BELETSKIY TOLD CHAIRMAN DEPUTY COMMANDANT (FRENCH) SEPTEMBER 10 THAT SOVIETS HAD DIFFICULTY UNDERSTANDING IMPORTANCE ALLIES ATTACHED TO HESS BUT THAT HE WOULD REPORT ALLIED VIEWS TO HIS AMBASSADOR. FRENCH DEPUTY COMMANDANT REITERATED TO BELETSKIY ALLIED VIEW THAT QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT ON TESTS REMAINED IN FORCE AND LEFT OPEN POSSIBILITY THAT ALLIES MIGHT EVENTUALLY COMPLETE TESTS PURSUANT TO THAT AGREEMENT WITHOUT SOVIET PARTICIPATION. END SUMMARY.

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2. ALTHOUGH SOVIETS DID NOT REACT OVER WEEKEND TO  
PROTOCOL OFFICER DEMARCHE OF SEPTEMBER 7 (REFTEL),  
ALLIES DETERMINED SITUATION SHOULD BE GIVEN ADDITIONAL  
TIME TO CLARIFY ITSELF AND THAT SECOND SET OF TESTS  
COULD BE POSTPONED FEW DAYS WITHOUT CALLING INTO DOUBT  
QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT REFLECTED IN MINUTES OF SPANDAU  
GOVERNORS MEETING OF AUGUST 31 THAT HESS WOULD BE  
EXAMINED IN TWO STEPS AT BRITISH MILITARY HOSPITAL,  
SEPTEMBER 4 AND 10. BRITISH WERE RELUCTANT  
TO BRING RADIOLOGIST UP FROM FRG WITHOUT ASSURANCE  
TESTS WOULD BE CONDUCTED ON SCHEDULE, AND INDICATED  
FURTHER THAT LONDON WISHED TO GIVE SOVIETS FEW MORE  
DAYS TO COME AROUND.

3. AFTER FRENCH PROTOCOL OFFICER TWICE PRESSED SOVIET  
COUNTERPART (ROMANOVSKIY) MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 10 FOR  
RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 7 DEMARCHE, SOVIETS SAID THAT  
BELETSKIY WOULD SPEAK ON SUBJECT WHEN HE VISITED FRENCH  
MINISTER (KOENIG) AT 1700 THAT DAY ON OTHER BUSINESS  
(SEPTEL). WHILE BELETSKIY VOLUNTEERED NO INFORMATION  
ON HESS, KOENIG TOLD HIM, AS HAD BEEN AGREED EARLIER  
IN DAY BY POLADS, THAT ALLIES CONSIDERED THAT REVERSAL  
OF SOVIET POSITION ON SECOND SET OF TESTS AFTER FOUR  
POWER AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED RAISED IMPORTANT  
PRINCIPLE OF INVIOlABILITY OF QUADRIpartite AGREEMENTS.  
KOENIG EXPLAINED THAT ALLIES WISHED TO GIVE SOVIETS  
AMPLE TIME TO CONSIDER IMPLICATIONS OF THEIR POSITION  
AND THAT THEY THEREFORE WERE WAITING PAST THE DAY  
SCHEDULED FOR SECOND TEST SERIES IN ORDER TO RECEIVE  
CLARIFICATION. HE REITERATED THAT ALLIES CONSIDERED  
IT OF VITAL IMPORTANCE THAT QUADRIpartite AGREEMENTS  
BE FULFILLED AND WERE ONLY AWAITING CLARIFICATION OF  
SOVIET VIEWS BEFORE CARRYING OUT AGREEMENT OF AUGUST 31.  
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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2386

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BERLIN 1575

4. BELETSKIY SAID HE WAS ASTONISHED AT IMPORTANCE ALLIES ATTACHED TO WAR CRIMINAL, PARTICULARLY SINCE FIRST TESTS INDICATED HESS WAS NOT GRAVELY ILL. BELETSKIY DID NOT, HOWEVER, REJECT ALLIED CONTENTION THAT AUGUST 31 AGREEMENT REMAINED VALID OR IMPLICATION IN ALLIED PRESENTATIONS OF SEPTEMBER 7 AND 10 THAT ALLIES COULD CARRY OUT SECOND SET OF TESTS UNDER THAT AGREEMENT. HE UNDERTOOK TO REEXAMINE MATTER WITH AMBASSADOR YEFREMOV.

5. COMMENT: SLOWNESS OF SOVIET RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 7 DEMARCHE AND BELETSKIY'S FAILURE TO TAKE SUBSTANTIVE POSITION SUGGEST THAT SOVIET REVERSAL OF POSITION RESULTED FROM DECISION TAKEN BY POTSDAM MILITARY. THIS IMPRESSION IS STRENGTHENED BY COCKTAIL-PARTY COMMENT OF ROMANOVSKIY TO BRITISH SPANDAU GOVERNOR OVER WEEKEND THAT PROBLEM ON TESTS LAY WITH "THE GENERAL" AT POTSDAM AND NOT EMBASSY. AT SAME TIME EMBASSY, EVEN THOUGH UNDERSTANDING ALLIED POSITION, MAY BE DISINCLINED TO GO BACK INTO COMBAT  
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WITH MILITARY OVER HESS. IN THAT EVENT, SOVIETS MAY WITHHOLD RESPONSE TO ALLIED DEMARCHE FOR SOME TIME.

6. WE WOULD JUDGE THAT OUR POINT OF PRINCIPLE WHICH HAD BROADER SIGNIFICANCE IN BERLIN CONTEXT THAN WELL-BEING OF HESS--THAT FOUR POWER AGREEMENTS REMAIN VALID UNTIL AND UNLESS ALL FOUR POWERS AGREE TO MODIFY THEM AND CANNOT BE CHANGED UNILATERALLY--WOULD BE GRADUALLY ERODED IF WE WERE TO POSTPONE TESTS INDEFINITELY WHILE AWAITING WORD FROM SOVIETS. ACCORDINGLY, WE PROPOSE TO SUGGEST TO BRITISH AND FRENCH THAT, UNLESS SOVIETS GET BACK TO US IN MEANTIME, WE INFORM SOVIETS THROUGH PROTOCOL OFFICER CHANNEL AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 13 THAT TESTS HAVE BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 17 AT 1800.

CHAIRMAN SPANDAU GOVERNORS (BRITISH) WOULD MERELY. INFORM  
SOVIET ACTING GOVERNOR AT REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 13 THAT  
ALLIED AUTHORITIES WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH SOVIET EMBASSY ON  
SUBJECT OF TESTS DURING THAT DAY. IN ABSENCE OF NEGATIVE  
RESPONSE FROM EMBASSY OR OPPOSITION FROM ACTING SOVIET GOVERNOR WE  
WOULD PROPOSE TO CARRY OUT TESTS SEPTEMBER 17 UTILIZING SAME  
PROCEDURES, INCLUDING BRITISH SECURITY, AS ON SEPTEMBER 4. AS  
COURTESY, SOVIET ACTING GOVERNOR WOULD BE INFORMED  
OF IMMINENT TEST THAT AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 17. IF  
SOVIETS WERE TO REACT PRIOR TO TESTS, WE WOULD RETAIN  
OPTION OF FURTHER POSTPONEMENT WHILE WE CONSIDERED  
PURSUING MATTER IN OTHER POLITICAL CHANNELS.KLEIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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